

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAMASC 01526 171041Z

17

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 ACDA-10 IO-11 OMB-01

SAM-01 SAJ-01 SAB-01 /089 W

----- 045019

O 171021Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6766

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 1526

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR SY LE

SUBJ: MARCH 17 SYRIAN MEDIA REPORTING ON LEBANON

1. SYRIAN RADIO AND TELEVISION CONTINUED TO WITHHOLD COMMENT ON LEBANESE EVENTS, APART FROM MIDNIGHT ANNOUNCEMENT THAT ASAD HAD RECEIVED ARAFAT AND SALAH KHALAF FOR TALKS "WHICH CENTERED ON SITUATION IN FRATERNAL LEBANON."

2. SYRIAN PRESS HIGHLIGHTED DETAILS OF YESTERDAY'S EVENTS. AL-BAATH HEADLINED, "AHDAB THREATENS DECISIVE ACTION WITHIN HOURS. ORDERS TO AIR FORCE AND ARTILLERY TO SHELL PRESIDENCY POSTPONED IN EXPECTATION OF ANOTHER INITIATIVE. WIDESPREAD POLITICAL AND MILITARY CONTACTS TO SETTLE CRISIS." PRESS ARTICLES EXPANDED ON THESE TRENDS AND NOTED ADDITIONAL OCORDINATION BETWEEN KHATIB AND AHDAB AND ANNOUNCEMENTS BY BOTH AHDAB AND FRANGIE BROADCASTING STATIONS THAT CONTACTS FOR POLITICAL

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PAGE 02 DAMASC 01526 171041Z

SOLUTION UNDERWAY AMONG CONCERNED PARTIES. PRESS

CITED AHDAB RADIO BROADCAST CALLING UPON MILITARY  
TO RETURN TO THEIR BARRACKS MARCH 17.

3. PRESS REFERRED TO AP REPORT THAT ISRAELI FORCES NEAR  
LEBANESE BORDER HAVE BEEN PUT ON ALERT AND LEAVES  
CANCELLED, AND NOTED THAT ONE ISRAELI PAPER HAD URGED  
GOI TO INTERVENE IN LEBANON.

4. NO EDITORIAL COMMENT ON LEBANESE SITUATION IN  
PRESS.  
MURPHY

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, NEWS MEDIA COMMENTS, POLITICAL SITUATION, NEGOTIATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 MAR 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION NEA  
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**Reference:** n/a  
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**Review Authority:** wolfsd  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 28 JUN 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

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**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006